

TALON

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On the Cover - Capt. Jon Tevebaugh, commander, 248th Med. Det., Vet. Services, and Spc. Leslie Escabi, animal care specialist, care for Sgt. 1st Class Ringo, a K-9 police dog. See story on pages 6 and 7. (Photo by Spc. Michelle Lunato, 305th PAD)





Page 5 - ASG raises issues with command and soldiers June 18 regarding the Eagle Base dining facilities.

(Photo by Spc. Vincent Oliver, 305th PAD)

Page 10 - Soldiers of Team B, 163rd Inf. Regt., and Co. C, 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt., play basketball with Sekovici community members for good sportsmanship, community relations. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Rick Hearter, Team B,

(Photo by Staff Sgt. Rick Hearter, Team B, 163rd Inf. Regt.)



Stabilization Force 11 Voices

"What does Independence Day mean to you?"



Spc. Greg Marchant Mechanized Infantryman Co.A, 1st Bn., 163rd Inf. Regt.

"Celebrating everything our forefather's fought for to gain our independence."



Spc. Johnicia Tyler G-2Ace 125th MI Bn.

"You don't even have to ask. It's just as important as the Army's birthday."



Sgt. Matthew Durran Driver Co. B, 1st Bn., 163rd Inf. Regt.

"Remembering the price that was paid by soldiers in the past."

TALON COMMENTARIES



Ground Forces CSM speaks...

"Honor"



Command Sgt. Maj.Thomas Lee Multinational Division (North) Ground Forces command sergeant major

The first definition of the word honor in the Merriam-Webster dictionary is "good name; REPUTATION; outward respect." Honor is also expressed as the Army value that entreats us to live up to all the Army values. It is not only our internal moral compass with its needle always pointing to what's right, but it is our external badge displaying the outward signs of our character. Our honor is a precious gem to be guarded faithfully in all our actions.

The condition of our honor is either reinforced or challenged by every action we take in our daily lives. When we are on duty, the display of our uniforms helps us to act honorably by relying on the structure and discipline of the Army.

Off duty the challenge is even greater, because we can blend in with the masses. We can choose to act less than honorably, believing that these actions will be masked by anonymity.

A few may believe that some behaviors are excusable, because they don't hurt anybody or because no one will know. I hate to burst that bubble, but someone does know. Ugliness as well as beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

When we commit a wrong act off duty as well as on duty, we affect the condition of our collective honor. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link.

By permitting ourselves to breach this Army value, we effectively tarnish the reputation and honor of our fellow service members. One bad apple can spoil the whole bunch if it is allowed to remain in constant contact with the rest. Decay begins with a single dishonorable act and can spread like wild fire if it isn't treated immediately and effectively. No one among us is perfect, but we should strive to be.

A soldier's strength of character is measured by his or her ability to do what's right, no matter who is or is not watching.

If we believe in what we do, defending and supporting our nation, then it is imperative that we take care in guarding our honor from the enemy buried deep inside each of us. This war will be won, if each of us takes care in fighting our own little battles, asking for help and guidance when the odds are overwhelming and providing help and guidance to others, as they require.

DRIVE ON TASK FORCE EAGLE – STRAIGHT and TRUE!!!

Wrap me in "Glory"

By CW2 Oliver Cunningham

Chief of Personnel Services 556th PSB

Wrap me up in that beautiful flag, and to the highest I will climb;

Wearing a mantle befitting the greatest kings of time:

Found not wanting at her moment, always there to see us through;

Always carried oh so high, that good old Red, White and Blue:

When first she rallied all around, and setting a tone seen to be profound;

At Fort McHenry her immense shadow cast defeated her foe;

At Iwo Jima her sons

stood toe to toe;

Today no less tarnished or faded, her message is not found jaded;

The call to battle, the cry no surrender;

Is the language this lady is always found to render;

Tested for resilience, challenged, and sometimes treated with disdain;

The threads and fabric of this emblem absorb every stain:

Dragged and burnt by peoples of every persuasion

Tested in the halls of every nation:

It burns brighter than those that would choose to

It speaks louder than those who try to out shout it; It stands taller than those who try to rise above it:

It blows with whatever is the necessary fashion;

Bringing peace, love and harmony, or dictators down crashing;

So wrap me up in this old flag and carry me to my resting place;

A life lived for God and country brings no disgrace;

In the ashes of recent events are found the splinters of our lives:

But the response is always the same, and speaks the same vibes;

Rally around me my faithful children, pick me up and run with me;

And we will soar high, proud and free.



Courtesy photo

The statue of Iwo Jima marks the fight on Mt. Sunbachi, Japan, during World War II. The Marines there posted the flag to show their victory.

SMA urges focus on force protection

By Dennis Ryan

Pentagram Staff Writer, Fort Myer, Va.

WASHINGTON — Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley urges everyone — troops, civilians and retirees — to focus on force protection to prevent another attack like Sept. 11.

"At one time we had 40,000 people on force protection," Tilley said. "As we get further and further away from Sept. 11, we feel it can't happen again."

Tilley said he is worried about the hot summer and how the stress of working long hours might affect soldiers' concentration.

"If you don't stay focused, you could die," Tilley said.

Tilley served in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968 and lost half of his platoon one night.

"We were overrun," Tilley recalled. "I'm not sure if we could have been more focused. I second-guess myself all the time. Every time I go down to that Vietnam Memorial wall, I look for friends' names."

Tilley said there are enough memorial walls to read, so soldiers need to stay alert.

"If you see something wrong and don't correct it, you're part of the problem," Tilley said. "All of us need to stay focused."

Tilley recalled a meeting with the com-

mander of U.S. Central Command, Gen. Anthony Zini, shortly after the embassy bombing in Nairobi, Kenya.

"I talked to Gen. Zini and asked him, 'do you think this is going to happen again?"
Tilley said. "And he said 'It's just a matter of when and where.' He said they'll watch us for a long time looking for a weakness."

The sergeant major stressed how fire drills and battle drills saved lives on Sept. 11 and how anyone with knowledge of first aid helped the injured.

The 33-year Army veteran also urges veterans to help.

"Our retirees can do so much to help us,"

"As we get further and further away from Sept. 11, we feel it can't happen again."

> — Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley

Tilley said. "This war on terrorism is going to go on a long time."

The Army's top NCO recalled how he was quite unpopular with the soldiers in Bosnia when he first reported there for duty in 1995.

"They were mad at me because I was enforcing standards," he said. "In the long run, they'll thank you."

Tilley praised the Army Reserve and National Guard contributions over the last nine months.

"We couldn't get the job done without the Reserve and the Guard," Tilley said. "They are doing a wonderful job. I can't tell the difference between the Guard and the Reserve. Today they are just as good as regular Army troops are."

Tilley advises soldiers to reassess what they are doing and look for ways to improve their performance. He recalled visiting with wounded soldiers in the hospital in Germany after Operation Anaconda.

"A lot of them had been wounded two or three times, but they weren't looking for a ticket home," he said. "They wanted to be patched up and sent back to fight. The United States has great leadership in President Bush and Secretary Rumsfeld, but they can't do it by themselves. They need all of us to help them."

Distance-learning pilot ends in Europe

NEWPORTNEWS, Va. —A distance-learning pilot program for 163 noncommissioned officers ended last week in Europe.

Six pilot courses — three advanced NCO courses and three basic NCO courses — were taught by video-tele-training to soldiers in Germany and Italy. The courses were offered by Army Reserve instructors from Jan. 13 to June 21 from a distance learning facility in Vilseck, Germany.

While the financial savings are still being calculated, officials said they expect the savings to be considerable. They added that NCOs also reaped physical and psychological savings by not being required to leave their units and families.

The courses were attended by both active and reservecomponent soldiers at digital training facilities in Vilseck, Mannheim, Hanau, and Wuerzburg, Germany, and in Vincenza, Italy. Each course was scheduled for 12 consecutive, 12- to 16-hour days.

In this pilot, assistant instructors traveled to each participating facility to administer practical exercises, quizzes, and a final test.

"I watched the training in Vilseck ... and my assessment is very positive," said Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Preston of V Corps headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany. "The instruction was the same quality as sitting in a classroom at one of the proponent schools. The interaction between students in the classroom in the small group setting was excellent and the distance learning site manager and assistant instructors were very good at working the practical exercises.'

One NCO who completed the ANCOC course in Wuerzburg provided an illustration of near-term and longterm benefits that distance learning offers the soldier who remains closer to home. "My wife was expecting," said Staff Sgt. Gus McKinney. "VTT training let me take care of things at home while still going to class."

The VTT also made a big difference to a colleague of McKinney's who was hospitalized during the training. "It allowed the soldier to have his family close at hand" during a time of need, McKinney said.

McKinney thinks there are other benefits. A large "study hall" block provided a place to use a computer and finish assignments without distraction, he said. And he added that taking the training closer to home station allowed the students to submit Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Reports on time.

VTT permitted instructors and soldiers to interact in realtime. The instructor was continuously shown on one of two monitors at each facility. Then, when a soldier asked a question or interacted with the instructor, they activated a microphone, a camera zoomed to the solider, and the soldier was shown on the second monitor.

The pilot was a cooperative effort between U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, which provided the courseware and Project Manager, The Army Distance Learning Program, which oversaw the facilities and the hardware.

Also, each facility has a TADLP site manager to maintain the equipment. In the event of equipment failure — which has never occurred in any TADLP facility — the assistant instructors could teach the class as a traditional resident class.

In the near-term, soldiers will continue to take Phase II of ANCOC and BNCOC by traveling to the U.S. for resident training at proponent schools. In the future, some officials say soldiers might just be able to take training in their very own foxhole.

(Editor's note: Information provided by the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems, Fort Belvoir, Va.)

ASG invites soldiers help in dining facilities

By Maj. Nancy Makowksi

MND (N) and TFE PAO

Representatives of the Area Support Group leadership and food service management, unit command sergeants major, and about 25 soldiers representing all the units in Task Force Eagle met at the Balkan Grille June 18 to discuss the quality of the food service on Eagle Base and Camp McGovern, and to provide answers to questions about various other issues.

One issue addressed during the meeting was the rumor that canned soda and bottled water will be removed from dining facilities. According to CW2 Veronica Brooks, ASG Food Service Advisor, canned soda

Soldiers are the command's number one priority. What does the CG always say? 'People first, mission always."

— George Bostick, ASG base operations manager



Snc Vincent Oliver

Members of the ASG and Task Force Eagle talk to troops and leaders about American base camp dining facility concerns.

alone costs \$54,000 per month. In an effort to reduce costs, water fountains and fountain sodas will be used in dining facilities in place of the bottled beverages. Brooks said the change would be implemented within a few weeks to a few months.

Other issues raised were the possibility of getting freshly baked bread from local bakeries, having barbecues every weekend — which has been approved and implemented, and

requested to extend hot-meal serving hours beyond the 12 hours daily they're already served. A request for chocolate or strawberry soft-serve ice cream in the dining facilities turns out to be tougher than one might imagine. Local vendors don't carry the additional flavors. They do carry chocolate and strawberry frozen yogurt, but yogurt is not compatible with the soft-serve ice cream machines already used in the dining facilities.

The ASG and food service management are looking into all of these

issues.

ASG Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Garrison, emphasized that any changes to the menu will take time —60 to 90 days. "So, any changes that we implement now will ultimately benefit the next rotation," he said.

"Soldiers are the command's number one priority. What does the CG always say? 'People first, mission always'," said George Bostick, ASG base operations man-

125th Finance mobilizes to serve soldiers

By Spc. Vincent Oliver

Assistant Editor, 305th PAD

ask Force Eagle soldiers stationed at Eagle Base are accustomed to walking into the 125th Finance Battalion Salute Alley offices at their leisure to handle any pay issues they may have. Soldiers stationed at any of the outlying camps and forward operating bases do not have the same luxury, as there are no 125th Finance offices located anywhere but Eagle

As a remedy, the 125th Fin. Bn., has a mobile Finance Support Team that makes weekly trips to Forward Operating Bases

Connor and Morgan, as well as Camp McGovern.

"Everything that soldiers at Eagle Base have here are available to the other task force soldiers," said Staff Sgt. Claresa Whitfield, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the 125th Mobile Finance Support Team.

Soldiers can take advantage of cashier services where they can cash checks in amounts of up to \$350 when the team visits the outlying bases. In extreme cases, an exception to policy will allow for soldiers to receive casual pay. Currency conversions are also available for soldiers who either purchase goods in the local economy or when going on leave with the Fighter Management Pass

Program.

On a weekly basis, Whitfield and her assistant, Spc. Michael Driggs, a cashier with the 125th Fin. Bn., make their way to Camp McGovern. From McGovern the FST travels to FOB Morgan. Then on to serve the soldiers at FOB Connor.

While physically demanding because of the amount of equipment the two-man team carries, which includes two footlockers and full battle rattle, Whitfield said she doesn't mind the movement. "I don't mind the constant travel because I like to be on the move, and I like a change."

"It's interesting getting to see the other camps," said Driggs. "I think the soldiers appreciate the fact that we're providing this service."

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Sgt. Arturo Martinez, NCOIC of Veterinary Services, cuts open a palette of food to inspect it for damage and quality. All foods are inspected before they are accepted and approved for consumption by soldiers. Bi-weekly deliveries to the dining facilities on Eagle Base range from 25,000 to 35,000 pounds. Dry, chilled and frozen foods come from Italy, Spain, Holland and Bosnia. Smaller deliveries of juices, sodas, potato chips and bakery items are shipped throughout the week. Food inspectors on the veterinarian team also examine raw food items entering AAFES facilities, meals-ready-to-eat stored on all bases and several commercial food supply and storage sites in Croatia and Hungary.

Veteri

By Spc. Michelle Lunato

Photo Editor, 305th PAD

hen soldiers a ploy across th and peace, the goes with them – a veterin

The heavy responsibility ployed healthy and producated, but essential, mission disease control and food

"Everywhere soldiers Tevebaugh, 248th Medic Services commander, as he of establishing a "good for important as his other mis

In the Balkans, food is fore hitting the soldiers' p

"I am one of the last lin soldiers eat," said Spc. Tir tion specialist.

The job of food inspect of the soldiers and the fin ernment, said Sgt. Arturo sioned officer in charge of monitors the thousands of delivered throughout the

"If I see something that pect the soldiers to eat it eany food in question."

If food is rejected due t voucher is written. The din vouchers for credit with the



nary team protects soldiers, K-9s

and Army working dogs dee world defending freedom ere is always one thing that arian team.

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ors is to protect the welfare ancial interests of the gov-Martinez, the noncommisof veterinary services who of pounds of food that are week.

t I wouldn't eat, I don't exither," said Martinez about

o damage or poor quality, a ing facilities then uses these as various food companies.

Besides inspecting the chilled produce and dry and frozen packaged foods upon delivery, there are several facilities in Hungary and Croatia to examine. These facilities are supply and storage sites for juice, soda, snacks and bakery items. The careful analysis of these places requires many hours of work and travel, but it does have its perks for the food inspectors.

"We get out to meet local nationals, experience the culture and see areas that we normally wouldn't," said Martinez.

Many people would not expect a veterinarian team to be the ones inspecting food for soldiers though, but it all makes sense, Tevebaugh said.

"Who better to look at a carcass than a veterinarian," he said as he described how veterinarians have to examine an animal before it is purchased and slaughtered for consumption by soldiers. "We are definitely the experts in the animal field."

This animal expertise is what demands Tevebaugh's presence on Eagle Base as well. He explained that NCOs and warrant officers of veterinarian teams are authorized to lead the food inspection mission, but a licensed veterinarian must control the care given to military dogs.

These highly-trained dogs demand regular blood work, dental exams, x-rays, vaccinations, physicals and special diets. "They are a tremendous asset to the Army," said Tevebaugh, "and must be treated as such."

In the first couple of months of the Stabilization Force 11 rotation, Tevebaugh and his team had to put their skills to the test. One of the working dogs became afflicted with a bloated stomach that turned around the dog's ribs. The potentially fatal problem was corrected by an emergency surgery.

"It was kind of scary," said Spc. Leslie Escabi, animal care specialist who assisted in the surgery. "I knew what I was doing though, and I love that I am making a difference here."

Another one of the veterinarian team's missions that makes a difference is spreading the word about zoonotic diseases, which come from animals. One of the biggest concerns in the Balkans is rabies.

Rabies, which has no cure, kills 35,000 to 40,000 people a year throughout the world and "is the most fatal disease known to man," said Tevebaugh.

Rabies is transmitted through saliva, which means a soldier could be infected without being bitten. It could be as simple as a puppy's lick.

"SFOR soldiers should not have contact with animals in this theater," said Tevebaugh. "Puppies and kittens are cute and remind of us home, but Bosnia and Herzegovina has no vaccination program."

This may be tough advice for many soldiers who love animals and find them on base or while on patrol, said Tevebaugh. But, soldiers must be careful and know that having any of these animals is forbidden.

"The keeping of animals as unit mascots or personal pets on U.S. Base camps within MND (N) is not authorized," said Maj. Gen. Charles H. Swannack, Jr., Multinational Division (North) commander in policy letter number 14-1.

"It would be wonderful if we could all have pets, but it is just not safe," explained Tevebaugh. "You can't tell if the animal has rabies or not just by looking at them."





Photos by Spc. Michelle Lunato

Above, Spc. Leslie Escabi, animal care specialist, closes the wound on Sgt. 1st Class Ringo, an Army dog who was injured during training. Escabi says animals are like scared little kids when they are hurt. Left, Capt. Jon Tevebaugh, 248th Med. Det., Vet. Services commander, examines the stitches on Sgt. 1st Class Ringo's leg. Tevebaugh says he knew he wanted to be a vet when he was 5-years-old and a local veterinarian showed him an ear mite under a microscope. "From that moment on, I knew I wanted to be a vet," he said. "I love the science of it. I can work on every species in the world, except one — human."

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Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff visits troops in the Balkans



Spc. Michelle Lunato

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard B. Myers, U.S. Air Force, visited Stabilization Force 11 soldiers Tuesday at Eagle Base and FOB Connor. The general said that the U.S. role here is very important. "Personally, I think our members of the armed services are excellent role models for the people of Bosnia and we're truly a society of many different backgrounds and different religions," he said. "We bring a professionalism and discipline that I think people respect and in the end I think it will make a difference."

Thrift Savings Plan helps soldiers plan for future

The Thrift Savings Plan is a Federal Government-sponsored retirement savings and investment plan. The purpose of the TSP is to provide retirement income. Service members may sign up using either Employee Member Self Service or by completing the TSP-U-1 form and submitting it to their unit S-1. Service members have two open seasons per year to sign up for TSP.

Open seasons are currently May 15 through July 31 and November 15 through January 31. Once a TSP account is established, the service member will receive an introductory letter and a personal identification number. Upon receipt of the PIN, the service member will be able to view and make changes to their TSP account via the Internet at www.tsp.gov.

The TSP offers the same type of savings and tax benefits that many private corporations offer their employees under so-called "401(k)" plans. Soldiers can contribute up to seven percent of their basic pay each pay period to their TSP account. If they contribute to the TSP from their basic pay, they may also contribute from one to 100 percent of any incentive pay or special pay (including bonus pay) they receive, up to the limits established by the Internal Revenue Code.

The TSP also offers the following:

*Before-tax savings and tax-deferred investment earnings

- * Low administrative and investment expenses:
- * Transfers into the TSP from other qualified retirement plans
 - * Interfund transfers.
- * The five investment funds are Government Securities Investment (G) Fund, Fixed Income Index Investment (F) Fund, Common Stock Index Investment (C) Fund, Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment (S) Fund and International Stock Index Investment (I) Fund.
- * In-service withdrawals for financial hardship or after the member reaches age 59 and a half
- * A choice of withdrawal options after the soldier separates from service
- * The ability to designate beneficiaries for the soldier's account balance
- * Spouses' rights protection for loans and withdrawals and recognition of qualifying court orders

*Tax exempt contributions

A Web site with general account information, capability for requesting contribution allocations and interfund transfers, upto-date TSP materials and information, and calculators to estimate account growth and annuity amounts is available as well as an automated telephone service (the ThriftLine) for Plan and account information and certain transactions.

When soldiers serve in a combat zone or qualified hazardous duty area, most compensation you receive for active service is excluded from the gross income on the IRS Form W-2, regardless of whether the member contributes any of it to the TSP. This compensation is sometimes called "combat zone pay."

All of an enlisted member's and warrant officer's compensation is eligible for the combat zone pay exclusion. Officers, however, may exclude no more than the highest rate of basic pay paid to each service's senior enlisted member (and any hostile fire/imminent danger pay received by the officer).

While serving in Bosnia, soldiers receive no direct tax benefit from contributing pay to the TSP because their pay is already tax-exempt. However, the earnings on those contributions from a Combat Zone are tax-deferred.

At the time the member withdraws from their account, the TSP will calculate the amount of the withdrawal that is attributable to the tax-exempt contributions. That portion will not be taxable, but the earnings attributable to it will be.

For more information about the TSP, visit the website at www.tsp.gov, visit the 125th Finance Battalion Customer Service Section in Building 1021 on Salute Alley or call 762-1016.

(125th Finance Battalion)

TFME gives tips on keeping cool

By Maj. James Frizzi

TFME, Critical Care Surgeon

As the Balkan summer heats up, so does the potential for heat injury. Four hundred Americans die of heat injury each year. Over 1,000 service members sustain heat injury each year. With the military operational tempo ever increasing, the focus is on the individual soldier and his unit to recognize and treat heat injury when it occurs.

The human body has evolved to adapt in a wide range of environments, not the least of which is hot or humid climates. Heat strain is the body's response to a hot environment, and is produced or relieved by three conductive forces. Convection is the transfer of heat from one thing to another, such as between skin and the surrounding air. The less the temperature difference between skin and air (or skin and ice pack, etc.), the less the heat energy transfer. Evaporation of water from a surface requires energy, and therefore reduces the energy (heat) of that surface (the surface being skin). The more moist the skin, be it from sweating or from water dumped upon it, the more efficient is evaporation as a heat transfer mode. However, the more humid the air, the less efficient is evaporation, as the water vapor generated has nowhere in the air to go. Air movement over the surface of the skin enhances evaporative heat loss. This is why a breeze or a fan feels good to a hot soldier. Radiant heat transfer is the final heat transfer mode.

In the same mode, the sun's radiant energy heats the body at all temperatures. It becomes imperative to remove a heat-injured soldier to a shady place out of the sun's rays.

Hot conditions are known, however, to lessen one's appetite (imagine eating lunch in a sauna); therefore, most soldiers will consume relatively inadequate calories for the first two weeks in a hot environment. Inadequate calories does lessen the amount of salt needed to retain water (a protective mechanism) but will lead to the soldier unable to complete tasks that had been routine in a cooler environment.

Heat cramps are due to lack of circulating water (dehydration) and calcium changes around the muscle fibers. Heat syncope (fainting) results when the blood is diverted from the brain to the skin and body surfaces in an attempt to cool the individual. The sudden drop in blood pressure will cause a momentary blackout that resolves when the person lies down (heart no longer has to pump blood against gravity). The danger in heat syncope is not the fall, but the landing- soldiers may injure the face, head chest or arms on impact with the ground.

Heat exhaustion is a disorder that involved an elevated body temperature with dehydration. The myth that heat exhaustion implies a lack of body salt has been disproved — the patient's body has enough salt and potassium in storage but without adequate water, these stores cannot be tapped. Patients with heat exhaustion may have profound or a lack of sweating, dizziness, a rapid heart rate and confusion. Other signs include nausea or vomiting, incoordination and loss of appetite (as a protective mechanism to retain salt and fluid). The body temperature hovers around 102 degrees F.

Heat stroke occurs when the body's protective heat regulation systems fail. Heat stroke is a medical emergency. At temperatures over 106 degrees Fahrenheit, elements of brain damage will likely occur. Heat stroke patients will demonstrate convulsions, bizarre behavior, vomiting and coma. The soldier may bleed from the nose or mouth. These pa-

tients will die without rapid treatment; the priority and speed of treatment should be identical to that of a gunshot wound patient.

The best treatment for heat injury is prevention of heat injury. Common sense, periods of acclimatization for new soldiers and the buddy system will prevent almost all heat injury (MOPP level 4 not withstanding).

If a soldier is suspected of sustaining a heat injury, the priority rests in cooling the soldier and replacing lost water. Stop the soldier's activity, remove the person from the sun (decrease radiant heat exposure), open or remove clothing (promotes evaporation) and cool the patient's skin with water. If the patient is awake and talkative, give the patient water; never attempt to give a comatose to lethargic patient liquids by mouth. All patients with heat injury should be assessed by a medical professional, either on site or at a treatment facility.

Heat injuries are common, potentially lethal and almost universally preventable. With good hydration, the buddy system and common sense, servicemen will continue to serve at the highest physical and mental levels. But when in doubt, seek medical attention

More than just a word; a way of life

By Sgt. Billy Adams

549th MP Co.

Fidelity, faithful, constant, staunch, steadfast, resolute; these are all words that describe one of the most important values a person could ever have. One of, and arguably the most important of the seven Army values: Loyalty.

Well what is loyalty? True loyalty is a positive, wholehearted devotion to those things beyond our own selfish private selves.

One of man's best features is the quality of loyalty. It is much bigger than any of us, and no one can be truly happy or successful if they live only for themselves. Loyalty is an important quality in the make up of the individual and an aid to success. It offers a big pay off: Returned loyalty from family, friends, and fellow workers. By giv-

ing the best of ourselves to something we believe in, heart and soul, is the only way we grow in stature. Of this, is the essence of loyalty? Loyalty is not like a contract, it has no conditions. It is of the greatest value, and yet its worth is incapable of measure.

The most popular example of personal loyalty in our culture has been marriage. It involves a commitment, a joining of one person to another, come what they may and till death do them part. Such an unconditional union has a sort of sacramental character to it.

The sign of loyalty is not that you think and feel as the other does, but that you stay with them regardless. Loyalty to country is likewise unconditional. Every citizen should be loyal to obey the law, and the state to uphold it.

Whatever he or she has done, and where ever he or she is, every citizen is entitled to their government's protection. And in times of emergency they can be called upon to lay down their life, whether they approve of the cause or not.

It would almost seem like an act of oppression, to require me to fight and die for my country, if the cause is not mine. But that, when all is said and done, is loyalty: that the cause espoused by the other is your cause, whether or not you understand it or approve of it.

It is this that is true in lasting marriages, and this that is true in successful nations. Loyalty is not just a word; it is a way of life!

(Editor's note: Adams won first place in the Army Values essay contest with this article. Second place went to Pfc. Sara Pratt, MP, 549th MP Co. Entries for the next essay contest on Respect are due Wednesday to Master Sgt. Carol Cheley, Task Force Eagle Equal Opportunity program manager.)

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TALON SPORTS

Intramural Sports Volleyball

Team	\mathbf{W}	\mathbf{L}	Record
HHC, 25th ID (L) G-Shops	10	1	.910
1st. Bn, 25th Avn. Regt.	8	3	.730
556 PSB	8	3	.730
CIMIC & NSE	7	4	.640
AIR FORCE	7	4	.640
HHC, 25th ID (L)	6	5	.546
TFME 1	6	5	.546
TFME 3	6	5	.546
Co. C, 1st Bn., 25th Avn.	2	3	.400
S & M DUST OFF	2	4	.333
B&R, MWR	0	11	.000
TFME 2	0	1.1	000

Softball

Team	\mathbf{W}	\mathbf{L}	Record
Co. B, 1st. Bn., 14th Inf.	6	0	1.00
Co. D, 1st Bn. 25th Avn.	6	0	1.00
Air Force	5	1	.833
JMA	4	1	.800
HHC, 1st Bn., 14th Inf.	4	1	.800
Co. A, 1st Bn., 163rd Inf.	4	1	.800
225th FLE	4	2	.667
Brown & Root	3	2	.600
ASG	3	3	.500
HHC, 25th ID (L)	2	3	.400
TFME 1	2	3	.400
Southern Comfort	1	5	.167
549th M.P.	0	6	.000
TMB 1st. Bn., 163rd Inf.	0	5	.000



Let's dance ...



Spc. Christina Davis

Washington Wizards cheerleaders performed for the soldiers of Task Force Eagle June 28 at Peacekeepers Hall.

Staff Sot. Rick Hearte

Soldiers of Team B, 163rd Inf. Regt., play a friendly game of basketball in Sekovici after being invited by Sekovici's Deputy Mayor, Velibor Melozevic.

Citizens open court for game, better, stronger relationships

By Sgt. Allen Hunt

Team B, 163rd Inf. Regt.

The citizens of Sekovici hosted and defeated Stabilization Force soldiers 61-52 in a basketball game on June 25 arranged by Sekovici Deputy Mayor, Velibor Milozevic, to improve relations between soldiers and citizens.

"We want SFOR to feel closer to the local people through sports," Milozevic said. "We also want to show the local people that SFOR are regular guys, the same as we are, and that they are here on a peacekeeping mission."

The SFOR team was comprised of 10 soldiers from Team B, 1st Battalion, 163rd Infantry Regt., and Co. C, 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt. The Sekovici team was made up of local residents aged 19-27.

The soldiers played Sekovici close through the first half, trailing just 31-27. Poor passing and turnovers by the soldiers helped Sekovici get some easy baskets and build a 17-point lead early in the second half. Some strong inside play late in the game by Sgt. Brandon Garneau and long three-pointers by 2nd Lt. James Everett brought the soldiers to within nine points by the end of the game.

"As a team we needed to pass the ball. Passing was the key to the game," Team B coach and commander Capt. Tom Luhrsen said

The game was not about winning or losing though, it was about having fun and building relationships.

"It was another great opportunity to show inter cooperability between SFOR and the citizens of Sekovici. It helped me gain greater respect for the people in the community," Luhrsen said.

This was the eighth time SFOR soldiers have competed against Sekovici in a sporting event.

"We've had these kind of events in the past, like games with SFOR in football, soccer and basketball. It really helps for SFOR and the people to get closer," Milozevic said.

Local police officer Milan Vasilic participated in the game. "This is a big event for us and this is one of the connections between SFOR soldiers and the people of Sekovici," Vasilic said. "My opinion of SFOR is more positive than before."

Power forward Sgt. Eric Dues enjoyed the game and gained more regard for the people of Sekovici. "We come down here on patrols all the time and we're constantly working with the citizens. I think events like this make it easier for us to work with the people here."



Spc. Christina Davis

Touchdown

Co. C, 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt., from FOB Connor watch the Washington Redskin cheerleaders Monday afternoon. The girls visited the infantrymen for a meet and greet lunch, show and autograph signing.

Independence Day Celebration

Today

6 p.m. Softball Volleyball 3 on 3 Basketball Softball Field Minue Park Fitness Center

Saturday

10 a.m. Horseshoes Ping-pong Minue Park Minue Park

Softball, Volleyball, B-ball

Sunday

9 a.m. Mt. Bike Race Perimeter Road 10 a.m. Tug of War Minue Park

Softball, B-ball, Volleyball Noon 8-Ball Pool Tournament

1 p.m. Closest to the Pin Soccer Field 2 p.m. Female Officer vs. Enlisted Softball Field

5 p.m. Barbecue 7 p.m. Award Ceremony Minue Park Minue Park

Triggers

**MWR will provide movies pertaining to Independence Day until Sunday.

News Briefs

Longhorn Cafe renovation — The Longhorn Cafe will be under renovations until July 12. Use the main entrance for access to dining facility. The facility's right, left and food preparation areas are under renovation. Work will resume after the Independence Day celebration. Extended lunch hours will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. during the first phase.

Vehicle accident reporting — All vehicle accidents are required to be reported to the military police immediately after the accident occurs, in accordance with Army Regulation 190-5. Failure to report accidents at the time they happen is a violation of Army regulation and greatly hinders the investigations. For more information, call the Military Police at 762-5152.

Bike safety regulations—The regulatory requirements and standards for bicyclists on any Task Force Eagle Base/Camp is the same as elsewhere in Europe, CONUS or Hawaii.

USAREUR REG 190-1, Chap 5, paragraph. 5-26 - 5-28 is the standard for compliance. The regulation states that bike riders will obey all motor vehicle rules of the road to include speed limits, coming to a complete stop at stop signs, yielding to pedestrians, will not ride abreast but in single file, will ride on pathways or sidewalks marked with signs allowing it; will have the bike equipped with a head light, rear light and/or reflectors for night time use; and will wear an approved safety helmet and reflective belt or vest while riding. For more information contact the Eagle Base safety manager Garrett J. Lozier at 762-3383.

U.S. Postage Rates Increase Sunday— The United States Postal Service has announced that effective Sunday, postage rates increased on First Class letters and other classes of mail to include fees on various special services such as registered, insured, and certified.

The First Class Mail rate will increase from 34 cents to 37 cents for the first ounce; however, the cost of each additional ounce remains 23 cents. Other postage rate increases include: The Post Card rate will increase from 21 cents to 23 cents. The Priority Mail rate, which is currently priced at the 2-pound rate, will now be priced at the 1-pound rate of \$3.85. The maximum amount of a postal money order will increase from \$700 to \$1,000. The 25 cents money order fee purchased at USAREUR APOs will remain the same. The new 37 cent First

Class Mail postage stamps are expected to be on sale in USAREUR around June 24. Additionally, a new three cents "STAR" stamp to be used to three cents to the current 34-cent stamps to make up the new First-Class Mail letter rate will also be available on or about June 24 at USAREUR APO locations. A new 45-cent "Heroes of 2001," semi postage stamp will soon be available at USAREUR APOs. This postage stamp will be used as First Class Mail rate of 37cents, with the additional eight cents to be applied toward assistance to the families of the emergency operations personnel injured or killed in the line of duty in connection with the Sept. 11 attacks.

Soldiers help communities



Spc. Christina Davis

Staff Sgt. Frederic Kiegler, squad leader, Co. C, 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt., tries to assist a woman in need during a routine patrol in Srebrenica Monday. The soldiers were patrolling in the town when a woman pleaded for help. According to the woman her house was not being fixed properly by the help organizations and the representatives would not help her. This day, all the soldiers could do was take her name and report the incident. See the related story in next week's *Talon* magazine.

Independence Day 2002

This Independence Day, we celebrate our Nation's 226th anniversary. In the time since our country's birth, the ideal of liberty — of freedom from oppression and tyranny — has been the guiding light for the millions of Americans whose dedication and personal sacrifice have secured our independence, preserved our liberties and protected our way of life.

Throughout our nation's proud history, devoted men and women in uniform have secured the rights and freedoms we cherish most dearly, those guaranteed by our Constitution. Many have given their last full measure of devotion to ensure that future generations can live the American Dream.

As we celebrate our history of selfless service this year, soldiers—the centerpiece of our formations—are again serving in harm's way, on point for the nation. Soldiers are an essential part of America's efforts to end terrorism, to provide the opportunity for oppressed people to pursue a better life, and to ensure the security of our homeland. They serve in Bosnia, Kosovo, the Sinai, Europe, Korea, the Philippines—in over 120 countries

Eric K. Shinseki General, United States Army Chief of Staff around the globe. They are keeping the peace. They are training. They are doing the heavy lifting as part of the Joint Team fighting terrorism, and they are our "boots on the ground," providing inspiration to millions who seek better conditions and more opportunities for themselves and for their children.

Whether honored veteran or new recruit, the bravery and selfless service of America's soldiers have been instrumental to the success of this experiment in democracy that has so convincingly withstood the test of time. And for 227 years, the Army has fulfilled our covenant, our non-negotiable contract, with the American people; when called we will fight and win our nation's wars, decisively. It is a covenant that millions of men and women have proudly lived up to for more than two hundred years.

To you, our veterans and soldiers who continue to make today's celebration possible, we owe our gratitude and our promise to remember and honor you. Liberty and freedom are your gifts to the nation. We thank you and we salute you.

> Thomas E. White Secretary of the Army

Know the SFOR 11 Patches ...

172nd Infantry Brigade

Combat arms colors are represented with the bayonet alluding to the Infantry and symbolizing attack. The Great Dipper and North Star allude to Alaska and the mountains refer to the terrain over which the units will maneuver to

gain and hold ground. The shoulder sleeve insignia was authorized Aug. 28, 1963. The basic white triangle represents a snow capped mountain representing the Alaskan terrain in which the unit is trained to operate.

The Totem Pole of an American Eagle sitting upon a Russian Bear, is representative of the purchase of Alaska from Russia. The bayonet symbolizes the Infantry, as does the Infantry blue at the

base of the mountain. The red mullet alludes to the Great Dipper, and the North Star which represents Alaska the State in which the Brigade was organized and serves. The red color of the mullet symbolizes the Artillery. The motto "CAVEAT" (meaning "Let Him Beware") is placed on the motto scroll. The distinctive unit insignia was authorized June 8, 1966. The 172nd Infantry Brigade was constituted Aug. 5, 1917, as part of the 86th Division and activated 20 days later at Camp Grant, Ill. The division arrived at Bordeaux, France, for combat duty in September 1918.

At that time, the brigade consisted of the 343rd and 344th Infantry Battalions, and the 333rd Machine Gun Bn. Its combat record during the war is sketchy. Known for sure is that

the division was depleted by calls for replacements at the front, and what remained of it was sent to Le Mans, France. The 86th returned to the United States in January 1919. The 172nd Infantry Brigade received the World War I cam-

paign streamer without inscription and was disbanded in January 1919 at Camp Grant.

The brigade was reconstituted in June 1921 in the reserves, again as an element of the 86th Division, and was activated in January 1922 in Springfield, Ill. The brigade head-quarters was converted and renamed the 3rd platoon, 86th Reconnaissance Troop, in March 1942, ordered to active duty at Camp Howze, Texas, in December, and mechanized in August 1943.

The 86th Reconnaissance Troop moved to Camp Livingston, La., in January 1944 and to Camp Coke, Calif., in September. It moved to Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif., for amphibious training in December. The 86th Division staged at Camp Miles Standish, Mass., and shipped for France Feb. 19, 1945. The unit arrived at Le Have on March 1, 19745 and participated in amphibious assaults across the Danube, Bigge, Altmuhl, Isar, Inn, Mittel-Isar and Salzach rivers in Germany and Austria. The division received the Central Europe campaign streamer, and during its few combat months was assigned to the First, Third, Seventh, and Fifteenth U.S. Armies.

The 86th arrived in New York on June 17.



Philippines and arrived at Leyte on Sept. 7, 1945, serving there on occupation duty until its inactivation in December 1946.

The 3rd Platoon, 86th Mechanized Reconnaissance Troop, was reborn on May 20, 1963.

Taken from the reserves, the unit was given to the regulars, converted and redesignated as

the regulars, converted and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 172nd Infantry Brigade. It was formally activated on July 1 at Fort Richardson as part of the U.S. Army, Alaska. It was reassigned to Forces Command July 1, 1974. The 172nd Infantry Brigade (Alaska) served as a nucleus of the 6th Infantry Division when it was activated April 16, 1986.

The Division had two active brigades and a reserve round-out brigade. During the 6th Infantry Division's inactivation in July 1994, the 1st Brigade was inactivated at Fort Richardson and activated at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. The 1st Brigade 6th Infantry Division (Light) was redesignated the 172nd Infantry Brigade(Separate) April 17, 1998.

Two soldiers form Fort Wainwright, Alaska represent this patch. One soldier works as a paralegal NCO for the Camp McGovern Legal Office. The other soldier is the TDS attorney at Eagle Base, and currently is the only defense attorney for SFOR 11.

(Information was gatherred at www.perscom.online.army.miland www.wainwright.army.mil/1bde/d-history.htm.)